

Marrgu language

Marrgu (Marrku) is a recently extinct Aboriginal language of northern Australia. Additional names include *Ajokoot*, *Croker Island*, *Raffles Bay*, *Terrutong* (*Terutong*), *Yaako* (*Jaako*, *Yako*).^[1]

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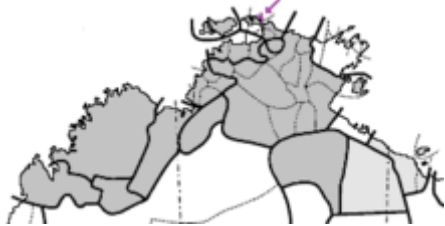
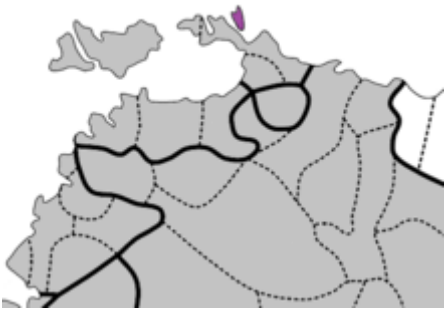
References

Classification

Marrgu had been assumed to be an Iwaidjan language like its neighbours. However, Evans (2006) has produced evidence that it was a language isolate,^[2] with possible connection to the extinct and poorly attested Wurrugu.

Phonology

Consonant inventory

Marrgu	
Yaako	
Native to	Australia
Region	Croker Island, Northern Territory
Ethnicity	Yaako
Extinct	1 speaker reported in 2000; ^[1] 2 reported to partly understand it in 2008 ^[2]
Language family	Marrku–Wurrugu? <div>▪ Marrgu</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	mhg
Glottolog	marg1251 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/marg1251) ^[3]
AIATSIS ^[2]	N45 (https://collection.aiatsis.gov.au/australian-languages/language/N45)
<div><div></div><div>Marrgu language (purple arrow), among other non-Pama–Nyungan languages (grey)</div></div>	
<div><div></div><div>Closeup</div></div>	

Marrgu consonants^[4]

	<u>Peripheral</u>		<u>Laminal</u>		<u>Apical</u>	
	<u>Bilabial</u>	<u>Velar</u>	<u>Palatal</u>	<u>Dental</u>	<u>Alveolar</u>	<u>Retroflex</u>
Plosive	p	k	c	t̪	t	ʈ
Nasal	m	ŋ	ɲ	ɳ	n	ɳ
Approximant	w	ɣ	j			ɻ
Trill					r	
Flap						ɾ
Lateral			(ʎ)		l	ɭ
<u>Lateral flap</u>					ɭ <ld>	ɻ <rlɖ>

Vowels

Marrgu had the three-vowel (/a/, /i/, /u/) system typical of Iwaidjan languages (Evans 1998).

References

1. Marrgu language (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/mhgl/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. N45 (<https://collection.aiatsis.gov.au/austlang/language/N45>) Marrgu at the Australian Indigenous Languages Database, *Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies*
3. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Margu" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/marg1251>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
4. Evans, Nicholas (1998). "Iwaidja mutation and its origins". In Anna Siewierska & Jae Jung Song. *Case, Typology and Grammar: In honor of Barry J. Blake*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company. pp. 115–149.

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